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NICARAGUA.

Report from Bluefields, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Reilley reports as follows: Week ended April 25, 1904. Present officially estimated population, 4,000; total number of deaths, 8; prevailing diseases, malarial fever, dysentery, and tuberculosis. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected.
Apr. 20	Banan.....	18	0	0	0
22	Condor.....	15	3	0	0

PANAMA.

Reports from Colon—Inspection of vessels.

Surgeon Perry reports, April 18 and 25, as follows:

Vessels sailing from Colon to United States ports during the week ended April 16, 1904: Spanish steamship *Leon XIII*, for Ponce, April 12, with 120 crew and 98 passengers; American steamship *Alliance*, for New York, April 13, with 65 crew and 122 passengers; U. S. S. *Marietta*, for San Juan, April 14, with 146 crew; German steamship *Baker*, for New Orleans, April 14, with 42 crew and no passengers, and the British steamship *Logician*, for New Orleans, April 15, with 40 crew, no passengers.

During the week ended April 23, 1904, the following vessels cleared for United States ports:

British steamship *Louisianian* for New Orleans, April 19, with 44 crew and 23 passengers; American steamship *Yucatan* for New York, with 67 crew and 74 passengers.

Report from Panama—Vessels from Chile and Peru not detained in quarantine.

Assistant Surgeon Pierce reports, April 24, through Surgeon Perry, at Colon, as follows:

I quote from the Panama Star-Herald of this date an article by the editor in criticism of the quarantine officer at this port as follows:

It is asserted here, with just cause, that the power of the board of health, in reference to the vigilance necessary to prevent the contagion of the bubonic plague that to-day exists in the South, principally in Lima and Antofagasta, has been abused, and by their transgression they have exposed this city to infection by this terrible disease. We know, of a certainty, that the steamer *Tucapel* returned to this port with the passengers of the steamer *Limari*, which were transferred at Puna during the late hours of the night. These passengers entered into this city without difficulty, because the *Tucapel* was at once given free pratique. This act, more than being censurable, should be published, and the remedy should be applied to prevent its recurrence. It is no longer possible to bear patiently that the whole vital interests of a community should be injured for the simple motive of business.

This steamer, the *Tucapel*, took her passengers aboard at Puna, the island at the mouth of the river at Guayaquil, and landed them in

Panama without detention or observation. The passengers were from southern ports, but I do not know which ones. The quarantine authorities are not equipped to care for vessels from infected ports, as they have absolutely no quarantine plant or facilities at this port.

Organization and regulation of the practice of medicine.

Law No. 18, of 1904.

The national convention of the Republic of Panama, under authority of paragraph 2, article 29, of the constitution of the Republic, decrees:

Art. 1.—In order to practice the profession of medicine or surgery in the Republic of Panama it is necessary, and sufficient, to possess a diploma of capacity, approved by the national board of health.

In those parts of the Republic in which there are no graduates of medicine, either native or foreign, the authorities of these parts will tolerate during the time that this state of things exists, certain persons that possess some knowledge of the practice of medicine to continue giving their advice when requested.

Art. 2.—The national board of health shall constitute the examining board for the Republic, but it shall not be a school of medicine, nor shall it have power to confer university degrees.

All persons who desire to practice medicine or surgery, or any of its branches, shall be required to present a diploma that shall be examined and approved by the board, after an examination in the form and according to the programme that the said board may establish for each case.

If the examination results favorably the doctor shall have the right to the approval of his diploma, which will give him the right to freely practice his profession in all parts of the Republic. Failing in the examination, a new examination will not be allowed until six successive months have passed.

The national board of health, in order to carry out the provisions of this article, shall have authority to name the supernumerary examiners that they may think necessary.

Art. 3.—Those examined, each time that they shall request the approval of their diplomas, shall deposit previously in the general treasury of the Republic the sum of \$200, and shall pay in advance to each examiner, as a fee, \$10 for each session that they attend.

These amounts shall be payable in the current national money of the day of payment.

Art. 4.—The diplomas in medicine and surgery issued legally in Colombia in favor of Panama before the 3d day of November, 1903, are national, and are authority to practice medicine for life in any part of the Republic of Panama without the necessity for further approval.

The Panamans, who before the date mentioned had obtained a degree as a physician or surgeon in any medical college, shall have the right to practice the profession in the Republic without examination or payment of fees.

Also are authorized to practice medicine or surgery without examination or payment of fees, all those physicians with a diploma of